



The Common Cause

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

LAW-ABIDING.]

Societies and Branches in the Union 561.

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[The National Union does not hold itself responsible for opinions expressed in signed articles.]

Notes and News.

Electoral Reform.

The Conference on Franchise and Electoral Reform, which is to hold its meetings during the present session, appears to have been selected with considerable caution. It contains, however, the names of good supporters of the women's cause, who will not consider that the difficulties to be met with after the war will be solved by the simple expedient of giving more votes to men. Sir John Simon, Mr. W. H. Dickinson, Colonel Craig, and Mr. Aneurin Williams are amongst our strongest friends. The three members of the Labour Party represent, of course, the party which has been prepared to make great sacrifices in order to secure the enfranchisement of women; while Sir Ryland Adkins, Mr. Pringle, and Mr. Turton are three recent converts to the movement who have openly declared their recantation of their former error. Sir William Bull, Mr. Maurice Healy, Sir John Bethell, and Mr. Ellis Davies have in the past voted in support of Women's Suffrage measures. On the other hand, we have on the list the name of Sir Frederick Banbury, a gentleman whose reputation rose chiefly on his strange pleasure in obstruction. Possibly the war, which has wrought so many changes, may have modified his belief in the usefulness of that particular course of inaction.

The L.C.C. Brief Business Training Scheme.

Our readers will recollect that a scheme was initiated last spring by the London County Council for giving women a short course of business training, to enable them to take the places of men in offices and banks. On inquiry at the L.C.C. Education Offices, we hear that the success of the short training scheme has exceeded all expectations. About 1,200 women, all, of course, carefully selected and chosen for the training, have been placed in the six months. The head of the Department has kept in touch with all the pupils, and all complaints and reports pass through his hands. Of complaints, only two have been received: one alone being for incompetence. Every bank manager praises the work of the women so trained. They are working well, and taking an interest in their work, while a good number are taking evening classes. The L.C.C. pupils were women who had had a better education, but not many of them are graduates. Most of them are relatives or wives of men who have gone into the Army. Their jobs are temporary, for the war only, and it is understood that the men are to be reinstated

when they return. But, in some cases, at any rate, the women will be retained, because they have done so well. As the head clerk reported in one great business-house: "The women are too good to lose."

The First Woman Bank Manager.

The first lady bank manager, says *The Evening Standard*, has been appointed to a branch of the London City and Midland Bank. She has been in training for this work for some time, and between thirty and forty other women are also being trained to be in readiness as soon as they may be required. Sir Edward Holden, who has introduced this innovation, states that he has no doubt about the success of the experiment.

Convinced They Should be Given the Vote.

"Up to July, 1914," writes Mr. E. R. Turton, Member for Thirsk and Malton, "I was opposed to granting Woman Suffrage, but the splendid work that has been done by women during the war, and the noble example of sacrifice they have set, convinces me that it is only just that they should be given the vote, and I am prepared to support any measure having that object provided they rely upon constitutional methods for obtaining the Suffrage."

Pioneers in France.

"It is curious," says Mme. Jane Misme, the editor of *La Française* (which this week celebrates its tenth anniversary), "that while everywhere else the woman's movement has been led and captained by women teachers, here in France it has been the other way round. Education for girls was obtained, in the first instance, by a little group of feminists belonging to the petite bourgeoisie, who devoted their time and their slender resources to this end. It was they who first claimed the right to education and freedom to work. The greater number of young girls who now benefit by their efforts have little idea how much they owe to the little group of pioneers, at one time so much scorned and despised; and, with few exceptions, the young women who now go out to teach the growing numbers of each successive generation, never realise who it was that won for them their opportunities, their education, their well-being, nor care to know who sowed where they reap."

"And yet there have been splendid exceptions," says Mme. Jane Misme, "and among my own most touching memories is that of a friendly letter from a total stranger, a schoolmistress in a remote little village of the Hautes-Alpes. Two hundred francs were enclosed in that kind letter, the royal gift of a poor woman, who gave to the cause when so many more favoured of fortune forgot or held aloof."

Editors, readers, and contributors to *La Française* may well be congratulated on the fine record of their paper. Instrumental in founding the "Cercle de la Française," which, in its turn, founded or initiated the Union Française pour le Suffrage des Femmes and the Congrès Permanent du Féminisme International, and other well-known societies, *La Française* has a ten years' record of pioneer work of which any paper might be proud.

Indian Women and Education.

In reply to the circular letter issued by the Government of India, in February, 1916, calling for views and suggestions as to the education of girls and women, Mr. Gopal Krishna Devadhar has addressed an interesting "note," says *India*, to

the Government of Bombay. Mr. Devadhar speaks with authority as a senior member of the Servants of India Society, and Honorary General Secretary of the Poona Seva Sadan. Mr. Devadhar asks, in the first place, for voluntary effort; in the second, for State aid. He wants a vernacular elementary school for girls in every important village, and a school with an English class in the towns. Special attention is asked for the training of women inspectors and teachers; scholarships should be offered to poor but intelligent girls, and grants to the amount of one-half the expenditure are insisted upon as essential. It will be remembered that the Secretary of State for India, when approached on the subject a year ago, said that there was no sign of a spontaneous demand for education for girls in India itself. It is, however, obvious that unless and until the women of India are ready to make a great forward step, little progress can be made by Indian nations as a whole. Advanced education, or even European education for men, and not even primary education for Indian women must not only handicap the women in everyday life, but the men themselves. For if the man lives and thinks in the present age of electric-motor traction, and his household somewhere far behind among "yesterday's ten thousand years," travels (intellectually and figuratively speaking) by bullock-waggon, the inevitable misunderstandings must waste a good deal of time and energy.

The cheerful aspect of the matter is this evidently spontaneous desire that does exist in India for better education.

Women Candidates in Finland and Iceland.

Twenty-four women have been recently elected to the Finnish Diet, forming 12 per cent. of its total membership. In Iceland, several women candidates are standing for election to the Lower House this month, and Mrs. Briet Asmundsson, President of the Icelandic Association, affiliated to the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, stood last August for election to the Upper House. This, says Mrs. Asmundsson, in a letter to *Jus Suffragii*, was the first political election at which women recorded their vote, according to the new Constitution of June 19th, 1915. It was a proportional election "to elect six members to the Upper House for a period of twelve years to come, instead of six members who were formerly chosen by the

Crown." Mrs. Asmundsson was, unfortunately, not elected, but her name was next below that of the successful candidates.

The Sheltered Sex.

The London County Council have spent thousands of pounds in the past in providing municipal lodging houses for men, but has so far refused to follow the example of Glasgow and Manchester in constructing them for women, though they appear to be more urgently needed in London than in other cities. But the need is not likely to be met, unless pressure is brought to bear upon the London County Council. It seems curious that the shelter and protection of men receives attention, while the protection and shelter of young girls and women is left to private enterprise and charity or to the Poor Law.

An Indian Chief on Women's Suffrage.

The Suffragist publishes a letter from Red Fox James (Skiu-Hu-Shu), great High Chief of the Blackfeet Indians, to Miss Alice Paul, Chairman of the Congressional Union, congratulating her on her "strong effort to centre on the adoption of a federal Suffrage Amendment." He claims for his race credit for the idea of Woman Suffrage.

"In early days," he says, "before the white man came, the Indian women had equal voice in the council, and even was elected as chieftain; so you see this is real American idea original from the Indians before white women takes it up." He declares that he is "always truly in sympathy with the women as concern a voice in the ballot of the country. Truly, I regret to say, I do not believe in State right, according to Wilson's plan, for if Mr. Wilson believe in his own State for women to vote, what is the difference in all States?"

French Women in Barracks.

A new experiment is being tried at Caen. *La Française* reports that at the barracks of the 7th Battalion there are now twenty-six women, who are replacing men for certain auxiliary duties. Of these, twelve are secretaries, three are employed in the bakehouse, two in the clothing department, and nine are cooks. These last, it is said, are greatly appreciated by the battalion.

"The Woman's Hour Has Struck."

MRS. CHAPMAN CATT ON THE CRISIS IN THE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT.

Speaking at the Convention of the National Woman Suffrage Association, held in Atlantic City on September 7th, Mrs. Chapman Catt expressed her conviction that a crisis had come in the Suffrage movement which, if recognised and the opportunity seized with vigour, enthusiasm, and will, meant final victory in the very near future.

"I am aware," she said, "that some Suffragists do not share this belief; they see no signs nor symptoms to-day that were not present yesterday; no manifestations in the year 1916 which differ significantly from those in the year 1910.

"To them the movement has been a steady, normal growth from the beginning, and must so continue until the end. I can only defend my claim with the plea that it is better to imagine a crisis where none exists than to fail to recognise one when it comes; for a crisis is a culmination of events which calls for new considerations and new decisions. A failure to answer the call may mean an opportunity lost, a possible victory postponed.

"The object of the life of an organised movement is to secure its aim. Necessarily, it must obey the law of evolution and pass through the stages of agitation and education, and finally through the stage of realisation. As one has put it: 'A new idea floats in the air over the heads of the people, and for a long, indefinite period evades their understanding, but, by and by, when through familiarity human vision grows clearer, it is caught out of the clouds and crystallised into law.' Such a period comes to every movement and is its crisis. In my judgment, that crucial moment, bidding us to renewed consecration and redoubled activity, has come to our cause. I believe our victory hangs within our grasp, inviting us to pluck it out of the clouds and establish it among the good things of the world.

"If this be true, the time is past when we should say: 'Men and women of America, look upon that wonderful idea up there; see, one day it will come down.' Instead, the time has come to shout aloud in every city, village, and hamlet, and in

tones so clear and jubilant that they will reverberate from every mountain peak and echo from shore to shore: 'The Woman's Hour Has Struck.' Suppose Suffragists as a whole do not believe a crisis has come, and do not extend their hands to grasp the victory, what will happen? Why, we shall all continue to work, and our cause will continue to hang, waiting for those who possess a clearer vision and more daring enterprise. On the other hand, suppose we reach out with united earnestness and determination to grasp our victory while it still hangs a bit too high? Has any harm been done? None!

"Therefore, fellow Suffragists, I invite your attention to the signs which point to a crisis and your consideration of plans for turning the crisis into victory."

We were passing, Mrs. Catt continued, through a great world crisis. Millions of lives had been lost in the war, vast sums of money had been transferred from the usual avenues to those wholly abnormal. No imagination could picture the world after the war. British, French, Russian, Italian, German, and Austrian alike agreed that it would lead to social and political revolution throughout the entire world. Whatever comes, they further agree that the war presages a total change in the status of women.

"A simple-minded man in West Virginia, when addressed upon the subject of Woman Suffrage in that State, replied: 'We've been so used to keepin' our women down, 'twould seem queer not to.' He expressed what greater men feel but do not say. Had the wife of that man spoken in the same clear-thinking fashion she would have said: 'We women have been so used to being kept down that it would seem strange to get up.'

"In Europe, from the Polar Circle to the Aegean Sea, women have risen as though to answer that argument. Everywhere they have taken the places made vacant by men, and in so doing they have grown in self-respect and in the esteem of their respective nations. In every land, the people have reverted to the primitive division of labour, and, while the men have

gone to war, women have cultivated the fields in order that the Army and nation may be fed.

"So, thinking in war terms, great men have suddenly discovered that women are 'war assets.' Indeed, Europe is realising, as it never did before, that women are holding together the civilisation for which men are fighting. A great searchlight has been thrown upon the business of nation building, and it has been demonstrated in every European land that it is a partnership with equal, but different, responsibilities resting upon the two partners."

Mrs. Chapman Catt then gave an account of many new branches of work in which women were occupied.

"The war will soon end, and the armies will return to their native lands. To many a family the men will never come back. The husband who returns to many a wife will eat no bread the rest of his life save of her earning."

"What, then, will happen after the war? Will the widows left with families to support cheerfully leave their well-paid posts for those commanding lower wages? Not without protest! Will the wives who now must support crippled husbands give up their skilled work and take up the occupations which were open to them before the war? Will they resignedly say: 'The woman who has a healthy husband who can earn for her, has a right to tea and raisin cake, but the woman who earns for herself and a husband who has given his all to his country, must be content with butterless bread?' Not without protest!"

"On the contrary, the economic axiom, denied and evaded for centuries, will be blazoned on every factory, counting-house, and shop: 'Equal pay for equal work'; and common justice will slowly but surely enforce that law. The European woman has risen. She may not realise it yet, but the woman 'door-mat' in every land has unconsciously become a 'door-jamb'! She will have become accustomed to her new dignity by the time the men come home. She will wonder how she ever could have been content lying across the threshold now that she discovers the upright jamb gives so much broader and more normal a vision of things. The men returning may find the new order a bit queer, but everything else, too, will be strangely unfamiliar, and they will soon grow accustomed to all the changes together. The 'jamb' will never descend into a 'door-mat' again."

"The male and female anti-Suffragists of all lands will puff and blow at the economic change which will come to the women of Europe. They will declare it to be contrary to Nature and to God's plan, and that somebody ought to do something about it. Suffragists will accept the change as the inevitable outcome of an unprecedented world's cataclysm over which no human agency had any control, and will trust in God to adjust the altered circumstances to the eternal evolution of human society. They will remember that, in the long run, all things work together for good, for progress, and for human weal."

The economic change, Mrs. Catt pointed out, is bound to bring political liberty.

"In Great Britain, which was the storm centre of the Suffrage movement for some years before the war, hundreds of bitter, active opponents have confessed their conversion on account of the war services of women. Already three great provinces of Canada—Manitoba, Alberta, and Saskatchewan—have given universal Suffrage to their women in sheer generous appreciation of their war work. Even Mr. Asquith, world renowned for his immovable opposition to the Parliamentary Suffrage for British women, has given evidence of a change of view. Some months ago, he announced his amazement at the utterly unexpected skill, strength, and resource developed by the women, and his gratitude for their loyalty and devotion. Later, in reply to Mrs. Henry Fawcett, who asked if Woman Suffrage would be included in a proposed election Bill, he said that when the war should end, such a measure should be considered without prejudice carried over from events prior to the war. A public statement issued by Mr. Asquith, in August, was couched in such terms as to be interpreted by many as a pledge to include women in the next election Bill."

"So it happens that above the roar of cannon, the scream of shrapnel, and the whirr of aeroplanes, one who listens may hear the cracking of the fetters which have long bound the European woman to outworn conventions. It has been a frightful price to pay, but the fact remains that a womanhood, well started on the way to final emancipation, is destined to step forth from the war. It will be a bewildered, troubled, and grief-stricken womanhood, with knotty problems of life to solve, but it will be freer to deal with them than women have ever been before."

"The Woman's Hour Has Struck.' It has struck for the women of Europe and for those of all the world."

Mrs. Buttletub on Force.

By HILDA C. ADSHEAD.

"Hurry up the dinner, Melinda," said Mrs. Buttletub. "Uncle Laban won't want to wait."

"He's going to be late, aunt. He said so."

"Then you have dinner sharp to the minute, my girl," Mrs. Buttletub said placidly. "There's a hint for you for married life! When a man tells you he'll be late, you be sure to be ready for him early."

Melinda, with her usual shrug at her aunt's vagaries, put down her knitting and went to the kitchen, pausing at the door to add:—

"He *will* be late though. He's going over to Saltmarsh."

Uncle Laban walked in just before dinner time.

"I decided as I'd go over this afternoon to Saltmarsh," he said, "that is"—consulting his watch—"if dinner ain't going to be very late."

"It'll be ready," said Mrs. Buttletub; "and we're right glad to see you, Laban. We haven't seen you for months now."

"No, no; well, I've been kept busy—short handed, you know—at my place. I've let my men go to the war, and done my duty, I have. Ah, here's dinner! Now, Maria, I hope you've come to see that those old ideas of yours about women having the vote aren't any good. They won't hold water, my dear! Here's where the men score! You women talk very big about having a vote, but when it comes to fighting—why, any bit of a boy is worth more than you. You see that now?"

He chuckled as he filled his plate.

"Only them as fights, votes?" said Mrs. Buttletub. "Well, if everyone's agreed to run the country on those lines there's no more to be said."

"Ah! you begin to see what silly stuff you were talking before the war," said Uncle Laban, eating busily. "Some don't *think*; that's what it is, don't *think*."

"Shouldn't have thought you'd have liked it, though," said Mrs. Buttletub, in her placid voice, "you being so interested, as you always are, in politics. You'll miss your vote, Laban, if you get your way."

"Me?" said Uncle Laban, indignantly. "I'm a man!"

"Yes, but you ain't fighting, not as I knows of."

"You know very well that I'll be fifty-two come February," said Uncle Laban, testily. "Do have a little sense."

"Bless you, man! It was your own idea," said Mrs. Buttletub. "You said that them that don't fight shouldn't vote. Well, there you are! There's lots of men as don't fight. There's the men at the munition works—women do that, too, just as well as the men—some of them better. There's men in Government offices doing office-boy's work with relations that can keep 'em back. There's the parsons that talks big about a righteous war but stops at home. Then there's old men like yourself, and unhealthy men, and then the 'conscientious objectors,' that says out straight and square that they don't *like* fighting and ain't a-going."

"Well," said Uncle Laban, uneasily, "there's *reasons* why these men don't go; reasons—always some good reasons."

"Well, ain't there plenty of reason why the *women* don't go?" said Mrs. Buttletub. "I should say so! Chief one is that they provide the soldiers, poor souls! All the other reasons against not having a vote died a good bit ago, Laban, and this one, the physical force argument, is dead, too. This war's killed the lot! 'Women, stay in your homes' died when Mr. Asquith suddenly discovered women—that was when they wanted 'em to work for the Government. The 'not intelligent' enough went along of that when women were doing men's work, and doing it better. Now, this here force argument is gone, too. If all the men went, and if they said right out that no man who wasn't fighting should vote, well, we'd have to stand down; but, as it is—well, look at you, with three votes, and not fighting for your country: getting rich, I'd say, with these food prices up and your coal—"

"If there's anything to follow this," said Uncle Laban, hurriedly, "I'd be glad if you'd fetch it, Melinda, my girl, I'm a bit pressed for time."

Mrs. Buttletub did not pursue the argument, and Uncle Laban said his last word at the door when he was going.

"You women can't argue, you know. It's all nonsense! I'll be back to tea. I'd like it sharp five, if it'll not inconvenience you, Maria."

"Melinda," said Mrs. Buttletub, as the door closed, "we'll have *our* tea early, as usual. *He'll* be late."

"But he said," began Melinda, and then stopped as she saw that Mrs. Buttletub was composing herself to slumber.

"Funny thing," murmured the good lady, as her eyes closed, "that men *will* persist in thinking of themselves as the *logical* sex!"

Room to Grow.

The word "salvation" in Hebrew means "Room to grow," I am told. Perhaps it would be a better name for the work of helping girls who have made a wrong start than "rescue." So often that wrong start has been due to the fact that young people have not room to grow—never have had, from the time they were born into their crowded homes till they were weary of the struggle to find it, and go under. The want of space and rest and time crowds all the grace and beauty out of their lives. The want of scope drives their energies into foolish or wicked channels. They have no room to grow. And the more human they are, the more alive, the more sensitive and responsive, the more intolerable to them is the life of uninteresting, hard, and unabsorbing toil, which is all the crowded world offers to so many.

You see, it is just when they leave school that this happens; and yet school-leaving age is the age when children begin to grow fast, and their minds are in a turmoil—and their bodies too. They want adventures and life and colour and beauty, and they get the factory, or something else as monotonous, unskilled, and badly paid. For girls, perhaps it is all the worse when by ambition and cleverness and adaptability they work up into something socially "better" than the usual lot of their class. For girls like that are dangerously without background, not happy at home, divorced from their natural surroundings, yet so young and asking so much from life. Their case is, perhaps, more perilous even than that of the girl born of richer parents, who slips out of her class for lack of money to keep up with it, for she has probably had a better education, a longer training than her sister free of school at thirteen. And that training counts for so much, and holds her often against great temptations, so as to make us realise what it might mean to the others to be helped and guided through the glorious, dangerous time of adolescence.

But in any case it is nearly always "room to grow" that has been lacking, and of the girls who need "rescue" hardly any were fully grown—spiritually or physically—when they first came to grief. It seems sometimes as if room to grow were the first essential to them.

The thoughts of rescue workers to-day are more and more turning to this problem: how to develop the best in the girl (which has not been developed) until it squeezes out the worst. One of the most hopeful of the experiments made in this way and along these lines is Miss Skrine's weaving industry. She started a year or two ago, and her way of work is to teach to her girls one of the oldest and most beautiful of crafts—hand-weaving. The girls choose their own colours, make their own designs.

The thing they weave is theirs—creatively theirs—and it is not only to the born artist that this joy of creation appeals. Unless we are all artists! Perhaps we are, only the artist in us has not been given room to grow! Certainly, Miss Skrine finds that, almost without exception, the work exercises its fascination on the girls, absorbs them, satisfies the instinct of creation which, misused and perverted, has perhaps been the actual cause of their fall.

Laundry work suits some people, but to others—not necessarily the most hopeless in themselves—it is intolerable. The quick, clever, refined, and beauty-loving girl can get out of hand-weaving a satisfaction that is of inestimable importance to her. It gives the interest in life which must fill the place of the excitement foregone.

Hand-weaving is, too, an industry with a future. It would, I think, surprise many people, in whose minds the idea of weaving is vaguely connected with shapeless garments, muddy colours, and a generally mossy appearance, to know how steady a demand there is for hand-woven silks and woollens, linens, and cottons; how that demand is increasing, and how very beautiful are the colours that may be found in hand-weaving studios. Nothing makes the ordinary "shop" materials in which most of us are lamentably clad look more shoddy and deplorable than the contrast between them and the noble work of the hand-weaver. Miss Skrine's girls, consciously or unconsciously, realise this. They realise that they are making something beautiful, something that is "worth while," that will be bought not because the buyer is charitable and prepared to

be robbed as at a bazaar, but because it is wanted and commands its price. It is the way in which self-respect is won back by those who have lost it, and self-expression found by those to whom all healthy self-expression has been denied.

The war may solve some problems—God grant it—but this problem of salvation for those who, denied room to grow, have grown twisted and wrong, it will not solve; it will increase it. We need the industry to be kept going, but we want also to enable it to do its work in the best possible way. Miss Skrine has, at present, nowhere for her girls to live. They come to her from rescue-homes, or elsewhere. Some of them live in lodgings. They ought to be, if possible, in a hostel, where the conditions are good, and where they do not have to come and go from distances. Some of them have a baby to support as well as themselves, and babies are not kept in rescue-homes, nor can they be left alone in lodgings. The right of a fatherless child to be with its mother is surely the most sacred right on earth—and the most often violated.

It has only one parent—who shall rob it of that one? It starts with a handicap—shall we not deal very tenderly with it? The nation needs all its children.

A. MAUDE ROYDEN.

[NOTE.—Miss Skrine's Industry is at 6, Denmark Street, Charing Cross Road, W.C., and may be seen by any who are interested. Her Treasurer is Mrs. Glynne Williams, 7, Berkeley House, Hay Hill.]

Mothers and Babies.

Part III. of the Local Government Board Report for 1915-1916 gives an encouraging account of the work that has been done during the year to safeguard the health of expectant and nursing mothers and their infants. Schemes have now been approved for nearly all the large urban districts and a considerable number of smaller districts. Progress has been much helped by the Notification of Births Act, which was passed in 1907 as an adoptive measure and made compulsory for every district in England and Wales in 1915.

Grants from the Imperial Exchequer have enabled many local authorities and voluntary agencies to extend work they had already undertaken, and many others have been encouraged to start work in areas hitherto unprovided for. Health visitors are now employed or subsidised by all the Metropolitan boroughs except Camberwell, and by all the county boroughs except Gateshead. A few county councils and other local authorities have proposed to postpone the question until after the war, but most have recognised the importance of making a special effort at the present time to safeguard the life and improve the health of mothers and babies, and have been sufficiently far-sighted to avoid economising at the expense of the infant population.

"The first step," says the Report, "requisite in a complete scheme for maternity and child welfare is the provision of an adequate staff of duly-qualified health visitors to undertake the home visitation of infants and little children. Nearly four hundred whole-time and over six hundred part-time health visitors have now been appointed by local authorities for this purpose. A considerable number of salaried health visitors have also been appointed by voluntary societies working in co-operation with local authorities, and valuable work has been done by these and also by numerous unpaid workers. . . . Provision is gradually being made for the extension of the visiting, which at first is often confined to infants up to twelve months of age, to children up to school age, and to expectant mothers."

The visiting of expectant mothers would seem, to people who know something of the conditions in which thousands of babies come into the world, more important even than the inspection of children a few months old; and it is to be hoped that the arrangements which are being made to bring them within the scope of the scheme will not be too "gradual."

From other sources, we understand that the supply of really suitable health visitors is scarcely sufficient for the demand. This is scarcely surprising, seeing that the salary paid is usually about £100, and often no more than £80. The work is arduous and responsible, and is not likely to attract large numbers of the class of women required unless better remuneration is offered. The same holds good with regard to fully trained midwives. Untrained midwives, states the Report, are steadily diminishing in number, and it is, especially in sparsely populated rural districts, difficult to replace them by certified women. "We have now under consideration," it continues, "the question as to how we can assist local authorities and nursing associations to provide competent midwives in districts

which are unsupplied with this service." Better training, better pay, and better status would no doubt solve the question; and, since a sparsely populated district obviously cannot afford to pay a good salary, sufficient help must be given by the Exchequer.

In the provision of maternity and child welfare centres considerable progress is reported. There are now over three hundred municipal centres and more than three hundred and fifty voluntary centres. Unfortunately, however, some of these are suffering from the shortage of doctors.

Reviews.

The October number of *JUS SUFFRAGII* contains a special article on "The Prevention of Venereal Disease," by Dr. Helen Wilson, in which she shows the futility both of any attempt at the control of prostitution and of the "prophylactic packets" now served out in some parts of the Army to men before they go on leave, with a view to enabling them to indulge without danger of infection. "The result of the latter system must," she contends, "inevitably lessen the resisting power of tempted men, and increase the number of those who yield. When immorality is thus encouraged, habits are formed which must lead to far-reaching evil consequences, and ultimately to increased disease. All these expedients must fail because they are expedients. Success can be hoped for only by going to the root of the matter. The prevalence of venereal disease is due to a *wrong way of life*." The only way is to appeal to man's higher nature—by inspiring him with some sort of an ideal. "The motives that have been found effective by many thousands of our men are variously named—religious principle, chivalry, loyalty to wife or future wife, a sense of duty to his regiment or his race." The article concludes with the words of Josephine Butler, "Men must learn to live virtuously; that is the only possible remedy for the physical plague; but there are men who do not like to hear this; they will try everything sooner than this. The end, however, will be the failure of their every effort to separate the moral and the physical, and the confirmation of this truth, that the only cure for the evils which they so much dread is purity of life."

In an article on "The Nationality of Married Women," Miss Chrystal Macmillan shows how the position of married women, at least in the Anglo-Saxon countries, has gone back in the last fifty years. By the Common Law of Great Britain, up till 1870, a British woman did not lose her nationality when she married a foreigner, but in 1870 this was altered. The question was raised again just before the war, when the British Nationality and Status of Aliens Bill was introduced. Till then comparatively few women troubled themselves about the question, but when they became aware of the proposed provisions—that "the wife of an alien shall be deemed an alien," and that "disability" means "the status of being a married woman, or a minor, lunatic, or idiot"—the important women's organisations raised a strong protest, and though they were unable to gain all their points, they obtained some concessions. A married woman is allowed to retain her British nationality if her husband after marriage wishes to alter this. Facilities are also granted for the return to British nationality of a woman whose marriage has been dissolved by death or divorce.

THE DECLINE OF LIBERTY IN ENGLAND. By E. S. P. Haynes. Author of "Modern Toleration and Modern Morality." (Grant Richards. 6s. net.)

There is no doubt, says Mr. Haynes, that for the last forty years the whole tendency of British politics has been hostile to individual liberty. By a succession of statutes since 1886 there has been created "an irresponsible bureaucracy and a severely dragooned proletariat, the State collaborating with the employer in a long process of tyranny, which was, and always is, disguised as interference with the rights of employers."

This state of things he traces back to the influence of the doctrines of Karl Marx, to the "unfortunate prestige of Prussian doctrines after the war of 1870," and also, in some measure, to the influence of the Prince Consort. He instances the increased interference with liberty of contract, with private morals, and with family life—interferences that for the most part tightly circumscribe the poor, while leaving loop-holes of escape for the rich.

Great efforts, thinks Mr. Haynes, will certainly be made after the war, "to preserve a number of ordinances which can only be tolerated on the ground of real or alleged necessity" as emergency measures. The war will have killed off many of our more virile citizens who would have protested against police and bureaucratic tyranny; therefore "it is of vital importance for lovers of liberty to be on their guard. The last relics of Teutonic legend so widely propagated in the nineteenth century must be uprooted from our minds."

In a chapter on Liberty with regard to women, Mr. Haynes shows that women need to assert their rights (a) as citizens, (b) as wives, (c) as mothers. As a citizen she lacks unrestricted earning power and responsibility, and a thorough education in civic functions, such as a man acquires, at any rate partially, by the use of the vote and by sitting on a jury. As a wife, she should have a better defined right to maintenance and a certain partnership in his property, and she should be placed on an equality with her husband as regards divorce. As a mother, she should be in a more secure position as regards her own children.

Mr. Haynes also touches on the question of the prostitute, and the bitter wrongs inflicted on her by law and by society. He holds that individual liberty is even more important for women than for men as things are now, and that "if they can once make good their claim to own property and earn money and perform such functions in public and private life as best suit them, they will have achieved for themselves, and especially for women to come, untold possibilities of happiness." This, he realises, they are not likely to be able to do without the right of the Suffrage.

BETTER FOOD FOR THE WORKING CLASSES.

TO no class has the introduction of the gas cooker proved a greater blessing than to the poor. It does away with all the disagreeable preliminaries and makes the actual business of cooking a very simple affair.

That in itself is a very great advantage, and if the poorer housewife can but be educated to the fact that long, slow cooking is carried out by the use of a gas cooker more economically and with less trouble than is entailed in the use of the old-fashioned coal range, she will very quickly realise the value of a heat that can be so easily controlled. Once having realised that it is easier to cook slowly than to prepare a hurried meal she will naturally begin to turn her mind to the preparation of more suitable foods. She can thus more readily be taught that the cheaper parts of meat yield the *maximum* nutrition if cooked slowly and that the difficulty of securing sufficient protein food inexpensively can be removed by the use of oatmeal, pulse foods, cheap fish and the substitution of porridge, bean, peas, &c., for meat, because the preparation of these foods and the subsequent cooking of them can be carried out easily without undue interference with her other domestic duties. The greater variety of food thus obtained is the more desirable because the almost unavoidable monotony in the food of the poorer classes brings a great desire for tastiness with it—a tastiness that is often secured (at the expense of real nourishment) by the use of pickles, vinegar, &c. And it is well to bear in mind that to give this tastiness the gas grill is invaluable, for it gives that "taste of the fire" which makes otherwise insipid food appetising. As instance, the remains of cold cauliflower may be warmed up in sauce to which grated cheese has been added, and finished by a few minutes under the griller, which will give it a crisp brown surface—other cold vegetables or scraps of cold fish, may be used in the same way. It is only by realising that economy of time and labour are of the first importance to the working classes and demonstrating the *labour saving* value of gas cookers that progress in the introduction of better food to the working classes can be achieved.

Enquiries for further information on this subject are invited by the Secretary, British Commercial Gas Association, 47, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.

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"Their Special Claim to be Heard."

Is it yet recognised how very large the share of women must be in the work of reconstruction? The most obvious and conspicuous, and perhaps the biggest, problems in the "heavy work" ahead of reorganisation for peace, will be perhaps in the industrial world. The importance and complexity of the issues there can hardly be overstated. It was the thought of the tremendous changes and possibilities that lie ahead of us that drew from the Prime Minister the pronouncement that "the women have a special claim to be heard on the many questions which will arise directly affecting their interests, and possibly mean for them large displacements of labour."

Other classes interested to the same extent in industrial readjustments are represented in the national councils. The men of the trade unions, who as yet have not advanced any more statesmanlike solution of coming problems than the formula, "Turn the women out," are able to bring considerable political pressure to bear in order to attain their ends. Employers, also represented in Parliament, if less eager to get rid of women workers taken on in war-time, are not credited with motives either more statesmanlike or more humane. They lie under suspicion of wishing to retain cheap labour and of making use of the women to lower the whole rate of wages. Large numbers of women who, it is urged, are likely to be dependent wholly upon their earnings, or even to be obliged to take the place of the family breadwinner, must make the best terms they can for themselves outside the men's trade unions; while the women's trade unions find, as did the men's trade unions before 1867, that "votelessness is a fatal obstacle to effective organisation and to the power of putting up a fight for decent wages and conditions." "Any disfranchised labouring class is a most potent weapon," continues a writer in *The Herald*, "in the hands of exploiters for lowering the standard of living." But it is beginning to be recognised, especially by those who prophesy industrial strife between the sexes for bread, that there are other disfranchised classes which are also a potential danger or source of weakness in the State.

It is sometimes said, quite inaccurately, that the real basis of the franchise is "household franchise," and that the male voter represents the whole family group. This, of course, is not the case. An attempt is being made in France by M. Barrès to establish the principle by proposing a law to enfranchise women—widows and others—who are left to fill the places of heads of households in the absence of husband or kinsman, on the ground that the family ought to be represented in the national councils in the interest of the coming generation. That logical sense and intellectual clarity which distinguishes the Frenchman may very likely lead him to demand this form of national service of Frenchwomen, for the Conseil de Famille, of which women are members, is already a national institution. Over here, needless to say, the household is not represented, and is not counted as a unit in any similar way. But the problem which impressed M. Barrès we have certainly with us. Not very long ago a canvasser reported that a house-to-house visit revealed a whole street of widows with families who have not even the shadow of a claim left even to indirect representation. Yet, on these women devolve all the responsibilities of citizenship—save one. Property, of course, is represented; the taxpayer is supposed to be safeguarded by the vote.

But have we realised to how great an extent property is changing hands? or what proportion of the burden of taxation will fall upon women for the next ten or fifteen years? Close upon bereavement follows the imperative call to take up the stewardship, to act as guardian, or trustee. Sometimes, alas! there is no trusteeship. There are women whose kinsmen have

all been swept away, husband, sons, and nephews have been killed in the war, and the administration of the family estate has been known to fall to one middle-aged woman. A largely increased power of the disposal of money has fallen, and will fall, into the hands of women. There will probably be many more women in the industrial world as employers. In any case, the number of women taxpayers will be increased. Women with small incomes under the new schedule are beginning to pay income-tax. The old anomaly of taxation without representation is becoming a glaring injustice, and the whole position

of women—liable to be taxed, legislated for, placed under restrictions in the labour and other markets, laid without their consent under disabilities of any and every kind that may suggest themselves to benevolent legislators, or to the perverse ingenuity of vested interests very far from benevolent—is fraught with danger and anxiety in the near future. In a hundred ways the work of the first Parliament after the war, and of the Parliament that precedes it, may be called upon to decide vital questions of reconstruction, which can only be finally and satisfactorily settled by taking women into counsel.

Our N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Hospitals.

LONDON UNITS.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORT OF DR. ELSIE INGLIS.

The Unit mustered in Liverpool on August 29th. . . . We lay in the river all Thursday, and this gave us an opportunity of starting the daily routine properly.

The numbers of our boats were given out to us the first day. We distributed the Unit among them, putting an "officer" (doctor, matron, administrator, or commandant) in each boat. We had several boat practices, so that each member of the Unit should know her own boat and captain and the captain should know her squad. Our orders were to be at our stations, three minutes after the alarm sounded, in as much warm clothing as we could put on in that time, life-belt, and overcoat. The captain sounded the alarm for practice one day, and the whole Unit mustered excellently. Some of them, however, thought the alarm was real, and were almost indignant when they found there was no submarine awaiting us.

We had service on Sunday, which I took, as the captain could not come down.

"The voyage has been a most pleasant one, and very restful. We lay in the river on Thursday, and did not really start till Thursday evening. This is a very steady little boat, and we have had very calm weather—after the first day, when we pitched and rolled a good deal. The great majority of the Unit collapsed, but reappeared none the worse, and bursting with energy. The British girl is a very delightful creature. They drill, and get up sports, and sing and laugh and dress up. One of the (foreign) officers, watching an obstacle race during the sports where one of the obstacles was a sail tied down with ropes, under which they crept (it was a funny sight), turned to me suddenly and said: 'C'est tout-à-fait nouveau pour nous, madame!'"

"We did sight a submarine early one morning, but she took no notice of us, so we took none of her. She was very big—possibly the *Deutschland*."

[Interesting glimpses of the journey have been given in private letters by other members of the party. We are able, through the kindness of friends, to give our readers these little pictures of Life on Board and a Russian Welcome.]

"The Russian Unit has had a most prosperous voyage, and is now on dry land again. We were kept very busy all day on the boat, and had no time to be dull. In the morning, after roll-call, bed-making, cabin inspection, came the drills—military, Swedish, and stretcher. They were closely followed by a Russian lesson, which lasted until lunch. After lunch there was a mechanic's class for the chauffeurs, and a French class; after tea, Serbian classes. Everyone has been carefully taught how to put on their life-belt, and when the siren sounded three times at some unexpected moment, everybody had to be ready in three minutes under their own boat, with life-belt and overcoat and wraps. After dinner, card and chess parties were formed in the smoke room, and in the saloon there was singing and various lively entertainments, generally conducted by Holme. One night there was a fancy-dress concert, and an amazing variety of costume was improvised, in spite of the apparent utter dearth of materials offered by a party whose only dress was uniform and whose only luggage was a kit-bag.

"We are hoping for a rapid journey to Odessa and a speedy beginning of our work. Two hospitals will be required: Hospital A, directed by Dr. Inglis; and Hospital B, in charge of Dr. Chesney. The transport section, under Mrs. Haverfield, will be in a separate camp."

(Signed) CH. CORBETT.

OUR WELCOME TO RUSSIA.

"We left the ship at 10.30 p.m. on Tuesday night.

. . . We had a most wonderful reception on the platform of the station. About 350 soldiers were lined up, and the ship's crew made a band. The Russians then serenaded us for from two to three hours; they sang national songs, and cheered us, and danced until 1.30 a.m., when our train finally left the station.

"It is a most extraordinary affair, this train: lighted most inefficiently by tallow candles. We stop at every station, why I don't know, as we fill the train and don't take ordinary passengers. We have had no proper meals to-day; but, luckily, we have bread and jam and cheese on board, also most of us have chocolate. . . . At 12.30, on Wednesday night, we came to a largish station, and had a very good dinner of soup, horseflesh, baked apples, and coffee. At 4 a.m. in the morning there was a smash and a crash, and we found ourselves cut off from the rest of the train. We had to be transferred to another carriage, lighter, and much dirtier, and more uncomfortable, as they said the train was too heavy for the engine.

"Now we are well on our way to Moscow, where I shall be posting this letter. We are being hurried along, as the wounded are sent to Odessa, and we are said to be much needed."

Subscriptions and equipment, both urgently needed for the London Units, should be sent to the Treasurers and the Equipment Secretary, respectively, London Committee of the Scottish Women's Hospitals, 66, Victoria Street, Westminster.

At Royaumont.

"Kelvinside, Glasgow," Bed.

At present there is a good-looking Alsatian boy in the "Kelvinside, Glasgow," Bed called Oscar Baechele. Before the war he had lived a great deal in Germany, a sort of Bohemian life, doing a little clerking here and there and spending a considerable time learning German; but he found it difficult to get work there even when he had a good knowledge of the language.

Baechele's parents have a large cheese-making establishment, and he hopes to be able to go back and help them after the war. He started his training as a soldier in July, 1915, having voluntarily offered his services. He was wounded on the 4th of last month at Flaucourt at about half-past eight in the evening. Shortly before this his company had successfully taken a small village, but met with great resistance just beyond it. Baechele lay for some time completely stunned by the severity of the wound in his left arm; then, as there were no stretcher-bearers belonging to the division to be found, he was obliged to walk, as best he could, to Fontaine Capi, about six kilometres away. Here his wounds were properly dressed; he had lost a great deal of blood and was very weak; his clothes were in a terrible condition and had to be cut off him. Next day he was sent to Creil, where he arrived in a state of exhaustion after a whole day spent in the train, unable, through extreme weakness, to eat anything.

Since coming to Royaumont he looks much better, and is now able to sit outside, with his left arm supported by many cushions. Baechele has an intelligent face, with a long, straight nose, quite the features of an English boy, but he looks much too young and fragile to be a soldier.

Someone has told him that Kelvinside is not a pretty place, so when any remark is made about the name above his bed he shakes his head and smiles, saying "Pas jolie, près d'une grande ville!" Many of the men take a great interest in the names, and are most interested to learn their origin, and one or two of them, I believe, have written grateful letters to the donors.

The Millicent Fawcett Hospital Units for Refugees in Russia.

Dr. Alice Benham, of Chelsea, who, it will be remembered, was in Antwerp before and during its fall, has now returned from one of our Hospitals in Russia, looking very well.

"It has been a thorough change for me," she said, "and I have really enjoyed myself. It was a unique opportunity of seeing Russia from the inside, as well as of lending a helping hand to the poor refugees, and to the villagers in a very remote and uncivilised part of Russia."

"Were your discomforts not very great?"

"The journey out and back was very easy and pleasant," she replied, "except for the difficulty going out of passing our forty pieces of luggage through Harparanda, on the Swedish-Russian frontier. It had been registered through from Bergen, in Norway, and could not, in any sense, be called Swedish exports, so I just lost my temper thoroughly with the officials, until they passed everything to get rid of me! After a pleasant stop at our charming little Maternity Hospital in Petrograd, I went to Kazan, and spent several days there at Dr. Stepney's Hospital, buying stores for my work. Then two sisters and Miss Jarvis, the interpreter, and I took the boat along the Volga to Simbirsk. There, in Russian fashion, we just missed the train to Stara Chelnoe, and had to wait nearly twenty-four hours, starting at seven the next evening. We reached our station at 2 a.m., and after a twenty miles' weary drive in open carts we arrived, covered with mud, at our little Hospital just outside the village. It seemed a very, very remote and primitive place, but the country about was most beautiful, with rolling cornfields and distant purple hills. We were given unexpectedly clean quarters, which we furnished with our own beds, and tables and stools from the Hospital, an old wooden building with sixteen beds.

"A new hospital for infectious cases was building when we arrived, but as work was discontinued, in the usual Russian fashion, for two months, I do not think it will soon be finished. However, we were kept extremely busy with our sixteen beds, and with our out-patients, of whom there were sometimes over one hundred a day, prescribing and dispensing, with the help of a Russian medical student. We also had a 'felscher' and two English V.A.D's. from Petrograd to help in the wards.

"We treated the peasants of four nationalities—Polish refugees, often very superior people, who obeyed our orders strictly, and were much cleaner than the natives; Russians, some of whom were invalided and convalescent soldiers; Tartars; and, finally, Chubasch, an ancient Volga tribe of Mongolian origin. Except among the Poles, who responded intelligently to our treatment, the work was rather discouraging on account of the dirt and entire lack of civilisation, and eye and skin cases were very common. But we tried to be patient, and felt that we were health missionaries, especially when we treated the wounds caused by harvest-time accidents with antiseptic dressings instead of with dirt, the usual custom of the country. As there was no other doctor in the neighbourhood I was occasionally sent for by better-off patients, and enjoyed the long drives in the open *tarantass*. In London, my patients and hospitals and clinics don't send a *tarantass* for me, and I find life at home here really more fatiguing than out there! Miss Jarvis was a splendid housekeeper, and somehow managed to secure a plentiful diet for us, including butter, which was used by no one else in the village."

"Did you have any cases of drunkenness to treat?"

"Absolutely none; and, indeed, I never saw one drunken person the whole time I was in Russia. I had several patients with drunkard's livers, evidently from past drinking, but they showed no signs of present drinking."

"Did you like your patients?"

"Yes, indeed, they were very simple, and if they are not hygienic they are kind and grateful, and are, above all, very religious. Most of them had evidently never seen an English person before, and all, except the refugees, had very dim ideas about England. A telegraph station had only just been established there, and we were apparently the only people who ever used it. The drivers were very curious about me, and always asked Miss Jarvis my age and my salary."

We do not presume to investigate Dr. Benham's age, though she certainly has come back looking even younger than when she started, but it is well known to our subscribers that she most generously gave her services to our Units, although it involved leaving a very busy life in London and finding something like ten substitutes for different parts of her work. She is already much missed at Stara Chelnoe, we hear, as her staff

were very fond of her, and speak most warmly and gratefully of all she did for them. She left a delightful, cheery impression everywhere, and everybody was very sorry to lose her. Dr. Laura Forster, formerly of Oxford, and more recently resident in Petrograd, has gone to take her place till Christmas, as Miss Moberly has promised Mr. Neratoff, the Agent of the Zemstvos, that we would help him until then, and longer if we can find the necessary *personnel* and collect the funds for their salaries. It is hard to contemplate the renewed high mortality and the great suffering of the refugees and the peasants, if our help is withdrawn, and they can obtain no medical assistance whatever.

Women Police Service.

The work of the Women Police Service is opening out very rapidly. Those women who have, so to speak, worked on probation in towns like Hull, Grantham, Folkestone, &c., during the past eighteen months are finding the sphere of their work widened by the authorities. The trust placed in them is a gratifying testimony to the claim of those who have for many years foreseen the need for the police-woman in the maintenance of law and order. In one town the police-woman is responsible for the entire police department dealing with women and children. She arranges their apprehension by police-women when it becomes necessary, conveyance to prison, detention-house, or reformatory. Together with a male colleague she attends investigations. She takes the depositions in cases of assaults upon women and girls, conducts all examination of women's houses and clothes when necessary. She is assisted by another police-woman and a clerical assistant. She is in touch with missionaries, rescue workers, and various homes or refuges. She is thus able to manifest the first precepts of the police code: "Prevention and protection rather than repression."

The police-woman of Richmond, Sub-Inspector Mrs. Hampton, has been commended by the Chief Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis for her "excellent work." Her salary is now being paid by the police authorities. She is also Probation Officer for Richmond, and the combined offices enable her to keep a firm hold of the girls who pass through her hands, and to greatly benefit their future life and work. The Ministry of Munitions has appointed the Women Police Service for the training, supply, and control of a considerable number of police-women for the Explosives Department of the Ministry. Police-women are already at work in English, Welsh, and Scottish factories. Their duties consist chiefly in keeping the gates of the women's entrance, overlooking passports, searching for contraband, patrolling sheds, passages, and trains for the protection of the women, dealing with cases of petty theft, taking depositions of the girls, &c. The training takes one month—two weeks at the Headquarters of the Service in London and two weeks in the factory itself. The pay varies, according to rank, from £2 to £2 10s. The police-woman supplies her own uniform, hat, and boots when she has passed as a constable of the Service. The Ministry of Munitions have made a grant to the Women Police Service, which enables a small weekly salary to be paid to recruits during training.

We claim that there is no war-work undertaken by women more patriotic in character than that of the Women Police. The "Front" still clamours for "shells, more shells," and "men, more men." Therefore, "women, more women" is the cry of the munition factories. To maintain order and ensure the protection of her working sisters, to help them to avoid the many temptations which beset them seems to afford a large field to those women who would combine an independent profession with doing their bit for their country.

Time is proving that those who take up this open-air work improve rapidly in health and strength.

Intending recruits should apply to Inspector Campbell, 3, Little George Street, Westminster, for all particulars of training.

THE FOUNDATIONS OF OUR INDUSTRIES.

The British Women's Patriotic League has arranged a series of five Popular Lectures by experts on the Raw Products of the Empire, to be given at the Notting Hill High School, fortnightly, on Wednesdays, at 3 p.m., from the 18th onwards.

The subjects will be Rhodesian minerals, Newfoundland resources, glycerine, cotton, and West Indian sugar. The object of these lectures is to afford opportunity for instruction in our Imperial resources.

Tickets, 2s. singly or 6s. for the series of five, may be had from the B.W.P.L., 92, Victoria Street, S.W.

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

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In our list of Societies which had increased their membership this year, we unwittingly omitted Wokingham.

This Society ended last year with a membership of eighty-five. This year it numbers 102. We offer it our hearty congratulations. On the other hand, Sunderland was included in the list in error. The Treasurer writes that they "do not wish to gain undeserved credit," though in fairness to the Society she would like to say that their decrease since the war began is due to the removal of a large number of members from the town, and can in no way be attributed to any falling off in interest or enthusiasm.

We should like once more to remind Societies which are holding meetings to send to the Literature Department for a parcel of literature, on sale or return.

Much good propaganda work can be done by a pamphlet, which often goes where no speaker can reach; and those who are already Suffragists can have their interest maintained and their enthusiasm deepened by keeping in touch in this way with the various aspects of the question. Few of us know so much that we have nothing to learn, and the Literature Department is ready to supply books and pamphlets on all questions which affect women and children.

The Millicent Fawcett Hospital Units are holding a Stall at the Christmas Sale of the United Suffragists, to be held at the Central Hall, Westminster, on Saturday, December 2nd, from 3 to 9 p.m.

Mrs. Alys Russell will be very glad to receive any articles for the Stall at Headquarters before December 1st.

Contributions to the General Fund.

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1915 ... 2,608 10 9	Miss Scott ... 50 0 0
Received from October 2nd to October 7th, 1916:—	Miss C. M. Forster ... 10 0 0
SUBSCRIPTIONS.	Miss M. L. Mackenzie (2nd donation) ... 5 0 0
Miss A. French ... 1 1 0	Richmond W.S.S. ... 2 2 0
Miss B. L. Hutchins ... 5 0 0	Anonymous, per Mrs. Fawcett ... 300 0 0
Mrs. Marshall ... 1 1 0	Mrs. Fyffe ... 5 0 0
Mrs. M. S. Gibb ... 5 0 0	Glasgow W.S.S.: Mrs. T. Dick ... 1 0 0
Mrs. A. C. Osler ... 5 0 0	Miss M. C. Morrison ... 1 0 0
Miss F. H. Birley ... 5 0 0	Miss E. Crease ... 5 0 0
Miss Mabel French ... 1 1 0	The Misses Hooton ... 2 0 0
Mrs. Cloudesley Breerton ... 1 1 0	Mr. E. H. Smith ... 2 0 0
Miss E. M. LeCocq ... 2 6	Legacy from the late Miss Amelia Norton ... 100 0 0
GENERAL SERVICE FUND DONATIONS.	Mrs. Attlee ... 10 0 0
Staff of Gloucestershire School of Domestic Science (37th donation) (Belgian Relief) ... 3 14 6	Mrs. Bousfield ... 1 1 0
	Received for Scottish Women's Hospital ... 3 0 0
	£3,084 6 9

The Millicent Fawcett Hospital Units for Refugees in Russia.

THIRTY-SEVENTH LIST.

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Already acknowledged ... 8,809 17 2	Settle B.W.T.A. and W.S.S. (additional) ... 3 0 0
Miss Alice Bolton (6th monthly donation) ... 10 0 0	Miss Lucy Mason (8th don.) ... 3 0 0
Miss Frances M. Kirby ... 5 0 0	Dewsbury W.S.S. Garden Party at Thornhill Rectory ... 5 9 2
Mrs. Morris ... 1 0 0	Purley W.S.S. (2nd donation) ... 3 0 0
Ascot W.S.S. (2nd donation) ... 5 10 0	Miss Halton ... 5 0 0
Mrs. Arthur Broadhurst ... 2 0 0	Winscombe W.S.S. ... 8 5 0
Miss Glyde (2nd donation for drugs) ... 10 0 0	Carlisle W.S.S., per Miss G. Cooke ... 4 18 8
Glasgow W.S.S.: Dr. and Mrs. Maitland Ramsay (£5), Miss K. P. Fraser (£3), Mrs. Jas. Taylor (£1), Miss M. J. Buchanan (10s.) ... 9 10 0	Leeds High School, per Miss G. Cooke ... 1 18 6
	£8,865 11 6

IMPORTANT.

Lost Letters Addressed to the National Union.

CHEQUES should be crossed.

POSTAL ORDERS should be crossed, and filled in N.U.W.S.S.

TREASURY NOTES should be treated like coins, and *always* registered. If any contributions remain more than two days unacknowledged, please write at once to the SECRETARY, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.

Please address letters containing money either to the SECRETARY, or to Mrs. Auerbach or Miss Sterling by name, *not* to the Treasurer.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

For "The Common Cause."

For some weeks past we have been appealing to our readers for a fund to enable us to carry on THE COMMON CAUSE through a critical period. Generous and warm has been the response; and those responsible for the work of the paper would like to add to their cordial thanks for the financial support, their appreciation of the kind letters received and the interest taken in all that concerns our N.U.W.S.S. paper.

This week THE COMMON CAUSE records, with gratitude and pride, the splendid unexpected gift of £100 sent to us, through Mrs. Fawcett, by an unknown donor. This completes the amount of "£500 at least" for which we appealed, and it relieves us from immediate anxiety, and leaves us with a little balance. This little fund, we hope, is going to be of the utmost service, by enabling us to take up some forms of special inquiry bearing upon Women's Suffrage and the problems of reconstruction, which we have been prevented from undertaking owing to the initial expense. Friends of Women's Suffrage, as every Suffragist knows, give, as they have always given without stint, of their knowledge and experience, and time; but the collection of much needed supplementary information sometimes involves an expense which we are not able to incur. Information bearing on women's work for the nation is doubly and trebly valuable just NOW, and we want THE COMMON CAUSE to be a storage warehouse of facts—the best and most telling argument of all.

We want more pages in these momentous times, when the whole Suffrage question has suddenly come to the fore; and more pictures, which have been an invaluable aid to the work of our Societies at home and abroad. We hope, therefore, that donations will not cease with the cessation of a pressing necessity, but that friends will help us to extend our work.

We acknowledge, with grateful thanks, the following amounts:—

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Already acknowledged ... 418 17 4	Miss B. A. Holme ... 1 0 0
Glasgow W.S.S.: Miss K. P. Fraser (£1), Mrs. James Taylor (10s.), Miss M. T. Morrison (10s.) ... 2 0 0	Bradford W.S.S., per Miss Gregory ... 10 0 0
Anonymous, per Mrs. Fawcett ... 100 0 0	The Misses Sharples ... 2 0 0
The Misses Hooton ... 2 0 0	Newport and District W.S.S. ... 1 1 0
Mrs. G. E. Foster ... 1 0 0	
Miss Mary M. Adamson ... 10 0 0	£527 0 4

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Sole Makers of
the Special "Olva"
garments for out-
door work which won
the Horticultural
Society's Medal
at the last
Holland House
Exhibition.

Practical frocks,
overalls, aprons,
etc.

Smocks in Shower-Proof
Drill - 35s. 6d.

Leggings in soft black or
brown Leather 15s. 6d.

Apron Breeches, in same
material - 25s. 6d.

Stitched hat - 18s. 6d.

MUNIFICENT GIFTS TO THE NATIONAL UNION.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies has received the intimation of a legacy of £100, bequeathed by the late Miss Amelia Norton. This lady was the first Hon. Secretary of the Bexhill Society, and was for many years a valued and much beloved member of that Society, and, in spite of bad health, an untiring and able social worker. Although we must regret that she did not live to see women enfranchised in this country, we are glad to think that before her death most of the principles for which Suffragists have so long contended have received almost universal acceptance, and she had the satisfaction of witnessing the enfranchisement of ever increasing numbers of British women in the Overseas dominions, and she assuredly received the conviction that our own victory could not be long delayed.

The sum of £50 has been received from Miss Scott, who is the sister of our tried friend, the Editor of *The Manchester Guardian*, and who, like all her family, is well known and much respected for her philanthropic work. A keen Suffragist, she supported the Sussex Coast Campaign just before the war broke out, and, driving to an open-air meeting near her home in Bognor, allowed her carriage to be used as a platform for the speakers.

A donation of £30 has been sent to the General Service Fund by Mrs. Waterhouse, who is the Chairman of the Manchester Suffrage Society, and has long worked for women and their interests.

We have also to record that a lady, who desires to remain anonymous, has handed the sum of £500 to Mrs. Fawcett, to be used for the benefit of Women's Suffrage.

In consultation with the donor's representative, Mrs. Fawcett has distributed this sum as follows:—

£100 to THE ENGLISHWOMAN MAGAZINE.

£100 to THE COMMON CAUSE.

£300 to the General Service Fund of the N.U.

No more opportune moment was ever chosen for the bestowal of such a gift.

Owing to the fact that the Suffragists have not agitated for special Suffrage legislation, so long as this necessitated a breach of the political truce, it has needed some political insight and imagination to realise the importance and the kind of work which our Union must continually carry on.

We can never be grateful enough to those who can give us strength and help at such a time as this. Perhaps it will be difficult for the future generations of women to realise what they will owe to those who are now working for Women's Suffrage, but we, at least, can appreciate their unselfish generosity and devotion, and we offer them our heartfelt thanks and a gratitude which it is difficult to express.

NATIONAL SERVICE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE.

MADAM,—I read with interest each week Miss Black's articles on "Housekeeping" in THE COMMON CAUSE. Her remarks on Federated Households from a Theoretical Point of View (and how otherwise) are excellent if Utopian, but they all, as do many other articles in your highly appreciated paper, seem to apply to the town-dweller only.

Many of your readers (of whom I am one) live in the country, too far from any centre to take part in the rush of woman's war work, canteen, munition, government, hospital, &c., &c. As they read, no doubt their heart is stirred within them. "What wilt thou have me to do?" is the question many ask, and for the most part these are able, well-educated women with just sufficient tie to keep them a fixture in the country.

The only thing for them seems to be "economise." The country wants money certainly as much as anything. Well, we have obeyed orders so far—substituted margarine for butter, instituted a meatless day, banished eggs from the table. Sugar is "Taboo," and now we have taken the last bit of advice and "Hidden the Poker!" and what it all amounts to is, a great deal of worry, and a very little saving. The greatest practical saving in a household, as far as I have known, is home dress-making and millinery. Make your own dresses, trim your own hats, and you save at once from half to three-quarters of your former expenses. Many women will say, "Out of the question—dressmaking takes too much time; it is not worth the trouble, a home-made dress neither looks as well nor lasts as long as a properly made one." I reply, in the first place, I am writing for the sake of those women living in the country who have time, and who fain would give it for their country's welfare, but who, by circumstances, are precluded from joining their more fortunate sisters in the "field."

In the second place, a dress *can* be made to look exceedingly pretty and neat if sufficient care and attention are given to it. Get a good simple pattern (no one wants elaborate styles nowadays), Butterick's, for preference. Read the instructions minutely, and stick to every word of them. This is most necessary. If you think you can "improve" or "take a short cut," you will find endless difficulties in store. Persevere, and in the end you will find you have succeeded better than you hoped, and saved more than half the cost.

A very useful coat frock can be made for 25s. The shop price is £3 to £4 4s.

One most important hint is. Never buy cheap material for a home-made dress. This is the cause of most failures. To look well, all the fittings and material must be good, pretty, and well chosen. Time and

concentration are all that is wanted, and these do not cost anything, fortunately, to us "who only stand and wait."

KATHARINE JOHNSON.

THE IMPERIAL NURSES' CLUB.

There is a very great need at the present time for a club in London where members of the nursing profession can rest and meet their friends. Numbers of nurses have come from distant parts of the British Isles and from Overseas; and have no friends in London to visit, and in many of the buildings which have been adapted as military hospitals almost all the available space is used for the patients, so that adequate sitting-rooms for the nursing staff cannot be provided. Therefore, over-tired as she frequently is, the nurse has often nowhere to go for peace and quiet.

The site for a club has been found at 137, Ebury Street, S.W., and the sum of £5,000 is asked for for initial expenses and general up-keep for two years; the idea being that other running expenditure will be met by members of the club. Donations may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, W. McAdam Eccles, M.S., F.R.C.S., Major, R.A.M.C., T., 124, Harley Street, W., or to the Hon. Secretary, Miss C. H. Mayers, 52, Lower Sloane Street, S.W.

DONATIONS TO N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Brought forward	133	132	13 7½	Mrs. Gibb	2	0	0
Anon., per Mrs. Moffatt	10	0		David Gentle, Esq. (Royaumont)	1	0	0
*Proceeds of collection taken at Garden Party, held at Hallgarth, Shildon, per Mrs. Nelson, Hon. Treas., Shildon W.S.S.	1	5	9	*Per Miss Bury: Employees of Pathhead and Sincclairtown Co-operative Society Ltd., Kirkcaldy	1	10	0
*Per Mrs. Robertson: Employees Messrs. Boyd & Forrest (£4 19s. 5d.), Employees Messrs. Dick Kerr (£3 15s. 7d.), Employees Portland Forge Co. (£1 14s.)	10	9	0	*Per Mrs. Campbell: Miss Mabel Bardsley (£2 2s.), Mrs. James Carr (£1 1s.), Miss Skelton (£1 1s.), Mrs. Campbell (£2 2s.) further for "Carlisle" Bed	6	6	0
*G. F. Barbour, Esq.	10	10	0	*Per Mrs. Robertson: Employees of Messrs. Boyd & Forrest (£2 14s. 1d.), Waste Paper Collection: per Mrs. Stuart Park (£2 17s. 6d.), Miss Hamilton (6s.), Misses Chalmers (5s.), Collection at Lecture, Campbelltown: per Provost Lothian (£6), Mrs. W. McKersie (£5), Misses Muir (£2)	19	2	7
*Miss Isabella Paterson	10	0		*Sale of Flowers: per Miss Kinnipie	4	11	11
*Percy Stewart, Esq.	20	0	0	R. S. Miller, Esq.	5	0	0
Miss J. L. Weir (Royaumont)	10	10	6	*Per Miss Bury: Proceeds of Lecture at Inverurie, arranged by Provost Skinner	2	4	9
Miss Smart	10	0		*Per Miss Beauchamp: Mrs. Dickson (10s.), Miss Dickson (£1), further for "Peebles," "Tweeddale," and "Neidpath" Beds	1	10	0
*Staff Accountant's Office, G.P.O., Edinburgh	1	2	6	Miss E. McNeill	10	0	
*Mrs. Ellis, further towards the "Murray's" Bed (Royaumont)	6	6	0	*Per Miss Bury: Employees Aberdeen Comb Works Co. Ltd., towards "Aberdeen Workers" Bed	6	10	8
*Per Miss Bury, Mrs. Macpherson	2	0	0	*Anonymous, Abbaye de Royaumont, salary returned as donation to Hospital	16	13	4
J. Morrison, Esq.	25	0	0	*Mrs. A. Broadhurst	5	0	0
Per Captain R. E. C. Campbell: Proceeds of Concert by Reserve Squadron, 2nd King Edward's Horse, Killenny (for Ford Ambulance)	62	16	10	*Per Mrs. Browne, Hon. Treas., King's Sutton W.S.S.	3	0	6
*Staff Hillend School, Greenock, per William Lees, Esq., Headmaster	1	0	0	David S. Henderson, Esq.	5	0	
*Staff Smith's Warehouses, Greenock, per Miss E. H. Brown (Corsica)	5	0	0	*Per Mrs. Young: David Michie, Esq., for "Trinity Heroes" Bed (Royaumont)	2	0	0
*Per Miss Bury: Alloa Co-operative Society, Ltd.	2	0	0	*Per Mrs. Wilson, Hon. Treas., Edinburgh W.S.S.: Employees, Messrs. McTaggart, Scott & Co. Ltd., 14th, 15th, and 16th Contribution (£5 9s. 7d.), Employees, Messrs. Munro & Co. (Restalrig Factory) (£2 3s. 7d.), Employees, Messrs. Thomson & Porteous (£8 14s. 3d.), 2nd and 3rd Contributions, N.U. Railwaymen, Thornton Branch (2s.), *Women Clerks, Accountant's Department, G.P.O. (£2 2s. 6d.), *Employees, Polton Paper Works (18s. 10d.), *Employees, Messrs. McVitie & Price Ltd. (£18), Miss Margaret Fairbairn (10s.) (France), (10s.) (Serbia), *Employees, Bridgeness & Grange Collieries (£8 18s. 5d.), *Employees, Messrs. Duncan Flockhart & Co. (£5), Staff and Employees Nobels Explosive Factory (£43 14s. 3d.), *Employees John Cran & Co., Ltd. (£2 0s. 3d.), *Employees Messrs. Brown Bros. (£11 16s. 7d.), *Pupils Grange School (£1 9s. 2d.)	111	9	6
*Rev. W. M. Tuke	5	0		Total	133	632	7 1½
*Balance Scottish Serbian Flag Day: per J. Allison, Esq., including interest on deposit receipts, also subscriptions, Kincaig (£4 12s.), Bonnybridge Bottle Day (£11 5s. 11d.), per Rev. Mr. Robb, Laurieston (£7 11s. 9d.) (£23 9s. 8d.)	193	12	8				
Per Jas. W. Thorburn, Esq., South Leith Parish Church Kirk Session (Serbia)	7	10	0				
Mrs. Ritchie	2	0	0				
Col. J. S. Tait	1	0	0				
*Per Mrs. Hope, Berwick-on-Tweed: further towards "Children of Berwickshire" Bed	6	10	0				
*Per Mrs. Reid: Mrs. Robertson	6	0					
*Domestic Staff, St Mary's School, Melrose	10	0					
Miss A. Morrison	10	0					
J. M. Sinclair, Esq.	1	0	0				
*Employees of Seedhill Finishing Co., Paisley: per Miss Etta Shankland	1	0	0				
Miss Batchelor	3	0	0				
*Messrs. J. Munro & Co.	2	2	0				
Miss A. N. Scott	5	0					
*Per Miss Haig: from Sale of Teddy Bear Poems	1	15	0				

Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treasurer, begs once more to thank all those who have helped and are helping, and will gratefully receive further donations to carry on the work. Cheques should be sent either to Headquarters, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, or to Mrs. Laurie, Red House, Greenock, and crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland."

Mrs. Laurie would again bring before the notice of the many friends of the Hospitals the urgent need for further assistance. The demands upon our resources are very great at the present time. The severe fighting on the Serbian frontier will entail our new Units being kept up to their full strength, and the additional beds added to the Girton and Newnham Unit, and the Abbaye de Royaumont Hospital mean much larger staffs required.

Motor-cars, ambulances, and lorries are also urgently needed. Mrs. Laurie also wishes to state that in accordance with the new regulations under the War Charities Act (1916) the Scottish Women's Hospitals for Foreign Service have been duly registered.

What Some of our Societies are Doing.

Oxon, Berks, and Bucks Federation.

MAIDENHEAD.—A well attended meeting was held on October 3rd, at Abbotsleigh, Maidenhead, when Miss Margaret Jones spoke on the present political aspect of the Suffrage movement. The intricacies surrounding the position were explained by the speaker, and an interesting discussion followed. Mrs. Aldershaw was in the chair, and a vote of thanks to the speaker was proposed by Mrs. Muller, and seconded by Miss Roe. New members promised to join the Society.

Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association.

A largely attended meeting of the members of the Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association (National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies) was held at 20, Green Street, on October 3rd, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Heitland, to consider the position of women on the new Parliamentary Register, in view of the re-opening by the Government of the Franchise question. The Society had the privilege of hearing an important address from Mrs. Fawcett, President of the National Union, who expressed her hope and belief that the political enfranchisement of women was near at hand. On behalf of the Association, she moved the following resolution, which was seconded by Mrs. Mirrlees, and carried with enthusiasm:— "This meeting of the members of the Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association learns with satisfaction that the Government are about to hold a Conference to consider the future electoral representation of the men and women of this country. It expresses the earnest hope that the proposals of the Conference will result in the passing of a measure which shall give the Parliamentary vote to women, and thus enable them to render fuller service to the nation in the difficult years which lie before it."

Copies of this resolution were subsequently sent to members of the Government, to the Parliamentary representatives of the Borough, University, and County of Cambridge, and to the local Press.

West Riding (Yorks) Federation.

HUDDERSFIELD.—An Executive meeting was held by invitation of Mrs. Pyrah at Woodside, on Tuesday afternoon, September 26th. Letters were read by the Hon. Secretary (Mrs. Studard) from headquarters, re the conference on the question of registration. Miss Harrop, Secretary of the Sub-Committee for the Scottish Women's Hospital, read a letter thanking the Society for a donation of £5 and a parcel of clothing, and said that the "Emily Frances Siddon" bed was now with Dr. Bennett's unit at Salonika. Miss Geraldine Cooke, from London, then gave an address on the present position of Women's Suffrage. Many curious conversions, she said, had been made lately, but there were still some very strong opponents.

Forthcoming Meetings.

OCTOBER 13.

Blackheath—Drawing-room Meeting at 47, Dimsdale Road—Hostess: Mrs. Stewart—Speaker: Mrs. Alys Russell 3.0

Ealing—Ingleside, Edgell Road—Hostess: Mrs. McBride—Speaker: Miss Helen Ward—Chair: Miss Chick 3.0

Guildford—Working Party every Friday at 1, Mount Street, for N.U.W.S.S. Hospitals 2.30

OCTOBER 14.

Westminster—Normandy Club, St. George's Square—Speaker: Miss Curwen 8.30

OCTOBER 16.

Sevenoaks—Public Meeting in the Club Hall—Speaker: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., on "The Status of Women After the War"—Chair: C. Lowry, Esq., M.A. 8.15

Southwark—Browning Hall, York Street, Walworth—Speaker: Mrs. Alys Russell—Subject: "Mothercraft and Suffrage"—Chair: Mrs. Herbert Stead 2.45

OCTOBER 17.

Birmingham—Handsworth Women's Co-operative Guild—Mrs. Attlee 3.0

Bristol—Women's Interests Committee, 40, Park Street 7.30

OCTOBER 18.

Bournemouth—Meeting, Trinity Hall—Speaker: Mrs. Herbert Druce, in aid of Scottish Women's Hospitals 3.30

Bristol—Meeting at Stockpool Road—Speaker: Mrs. W. C. H. Cross 3.0

Ealing—18, Freeland Road, Ealing Common—Hostess: Mrs. Kennedy—Speaker: Mrs. Heitland—Chair: Mr. Kennedy 5.0

Islington—314, Caledonian Road—Soldiers' and Sailors' Wives Club—Subject: Infant Welfare—Speaker, Mrs. Palmer.

Turnbridge Wells—Members' Meeting—Speaker: Miss G. Cooke—Hostesses: Mrs. Adeney and Mrs. Tattershall Dodd 3.0

OCTOBER 19.

Peckham—48, The Gardens—Speaker: Miss Waring—Subject: Scottish Women's Hospitals 7.0

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The large London Market enables **ROBINSON** to give best prices for OLD GOLD and SILVER JEWELLERY, GOLD, SILVER, PLATINUM, DIAMONDS, PEARLS, EMERALDS, SILVERPLATE, ANTIQUES, &c., in our form, condition, or quantity. Licensed valuers and appraisers. Telephone, Museum 2024. ALL PARCELS receive offer or cash, by return post.

OCTOBER 20.
Bristol—Public Meeting at Hamilton's Rooms—Atheist Rendall, Esq., M.P., on "The Present Suffrage Situation"—Chair: Mrs. Green Armytage 7.30

OCTOBER 21.
Great Missenden—Members' Meeting—Speaker: Mrs. Uniacke, on the Registration Question and Women's Suffrage 2.30

OCTOBER 24.
Guildford—Jumble Sale for Headquarters Fund—Contributions gratefully received at 1, Mount Street 2.30

OCTOBER 26.
Narrow Road—Women's War Club—"Spotted Dog," Cirencester Street—Speaker: Miss Curwen.

OCTOBER 31.
Westminster—Annual Meeting of the Oxon, Berks, and Bucks Federation, at 14, Great Smith Street 11.30

Items of Interest.

A Maternity Home for Wives of Professional Men.

There are probably some of our readers who may be glad to know of the assistance offered by the Professional Classes War Relief Council to the wives of professional men hard hit by the war. At 13 and 14, Prince's Gate, S.W., the Council maintains a maternity home, where expert care and nursing are offered for a nominal fee. This has been made possible by the generosity of the medical and nursing staff, who give their services voluntarily.

Since the Home was opened in 1915, 180 babies have been born there, and the Council have also given considerable outside assistance to a large number of applicants whose family ties have prevented them from leaving their own homes. No other organisation offers assistance to the professional classes in this particular form, and we think that it should be made as widely known as possible. Applications should be made to the Secretary at the above address.

Increasing Production.

Following the suggestion made by Mrs. Fawcett upon the outbreak of the war, that the rural branches of the National Union of the Women's Suffrage Societies should especially turn their attention to the food supply, the Upton-on-Severn Society called a meeting of their members and resolved to do everything in their power towards the increase and preservation of this. It was at once decided that those of all political opinion should be asked to co-operate. The County Council and the District Council were approached, and from the very beginning of our work we have received their most valuable support, especially with regard to our requirements for the training of women in gardening, farm work, and the preservation of fruit. This is the third year of fruit bottling and jam making, our venture being most successful from an educational, as well as a financial, point of view. Gardening classes (practical and theoretical) have been held weekly since January, 1915, the students receiving instruction at the Hanley Castle Grammar School, and working the adjoining plots.

In February of this year some of our students attended the County Council Experimental Gardens, and I think we may say that from this there has developed a scheme of instruction that will prove to be of immense value to the women of Worcestershire. Other activities including the collecting of fruit and vegetables for the Belgians, and now for the Navy. Our Association was asked by the Upton War Agricultural Committee to take over the organisation of women's labour on the land in the Upton district. This we have done, the Food Supply Association and this Committee being amalgamated. Since October, 1914, we have established a fruit and vegetable collecting depot, and it is here that our jam making and fruit collecting is carried on.

Last year we were able to give a large quantity of jam and fruit to the local Red Cross Hospital, and a cheque for £18 to the Red Cross Society.

The object of this depot is two-fold: to supply the soldiers' camps and munition canteens with fruit and vegetables, and to encourage increased production and prevent waste of produce. The difficulty of transport and the isolated situation of the villagers have caused much waste in the past. In all this work we are indebted to the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies and to the Women's National Land Service Corps, who have sent us trained organisers.

The home-grown wheat crop of 1915-16 was the largest since 1898; and bigger by over 2,000,000 bushels than that of the last pre-war harvest of 1913-14.

DELICIOUS FRENCH COFFEE.

RED WHITE & BLUE

For Breakfast & after Dinner.

In making, use **LESS QUANTITY**, it being so much stronger than **ORDINARY COFFEE**.

ALL BRITISH.

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THE TONIC NERVE FOOD.

An Invigorating Nutrient for **BRAIN**
FAG, DEPRESSION, LASSITUDE.

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20	1 3	3 3	5 9
30	1 9	4 6	7 6
40	2 3	6 3	12 0

All advertisements should be addressed to The Manager, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Ltd., 14, Great Smith-st., Westminster, and must be received not later than first post Wednesday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

THE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE—Public Meeting in the N.C.S. Hall, Park Mansions' Arcade, Knightsbridge, S.W., on Tuesday, October 17th, at 3 o'clock. Admission Free. Miss A. M. Emerson will speak on "The Women Co-operative Farmers."

FOR WAR WORK.

WAR SERVICE FOR WOMEN.

WANTED,

Strong, Capable, Educated Women,
TO TRAIN FOR
FARM & GARDEN WORK,
to take the place of men who
are doing War Work.

Apply—

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WESTMINSTER, S.W.

POSITIONS VACANT.

CARETAKER WANTED by the sea, Kent, able to wait on family when in residence.—M. S. Croom's Hill House, Greenwich.

COOK-HOUSEKEEPER (young), Wanted at once; non-basement house; bright kitchen; good outings; House-parlourmaid kept, and help every morning; wages, £26-£30; good reference essential.—Mrs. S., 22, South Hill Park Gardens, Hampstead.

ENERGETIC GIRL WANTED to run small house, with some outside help. Gentlewoman preferred.—Box 6,103, COMMON CAUSE Office.

WANTED—Lady Housemaid, for country house where lady servants kept.—Box 6,143, COMMON CAUSE Office.

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